

Finally, I would ask that you include a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter in the Congressional Record during the House debate on S. 743. I appreciate the constructive work between our committees in this matter and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

MIKE ROGERS,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM,

Washington, DC, September 19, 2012.

Hon. MIKE ROGERS,
Chairman, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence's jurisdictional interest in S. 743, the "Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2012," and your willingness to forego consideration of S. 743 by your committee.

I agree that the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence has a valid jurisdictional interest in certain provisions of S. 743 and that the Committee's jurisdiction will not be adversely affected by your decision to forego consideration of S. 743. As you have requested, I will support your request for an appropriate appointment of outside conferees from your Committee in the event of a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation should such a conference be convened.

Finally, I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the Congressional Record during the floor consideration of this bill. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

DARRELL ISSA,
Chairman.

A TRIBUTE TO DENISE SHELDON,
2012 SACRED HEART PREPARATORY ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Denise Sheldon, a 1993 graduate of St. Joseph's School and a 1997 graduate of Sacred Heart Preparatory. The School is proud to offer the Athletic Hall of Fame to honor her for her athletic achievements. The award recognizes contributions of alumni athletes, teams, coaches, and administrators of Sacred Heart Preparatory. Individuals like Denise Sheldon who are inducted into the Hall of Fame have made significant achievements in her sport of volleyball and exemplified the principals of sportsmanship and Christianity as illustrated in the Goals and Criteria of Sacred Heart Schools.

Denise Sheldon was part of a two-time division five state championship team. Denise led Sacred Heart women's varsity volleyball team to back-to-back CIF State Championships during her junior and senior years and was honored as the 'Most Valuable Player' in the League, CCS Section, and State of California in Division V.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Denise Sheldon, an athlete who lives a life which embodies the goals and cri-

teria of Sacred Heart Schools. She lives the five commitments of faith, respect, social awareness, community building and personal growth, and her contributions to her sport have strengthened our community and our country immeasurably.

CELEBRATING TAIWAN'S 101ST ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish our good friends in Southeast Asia, Taiwan, a Happy Anniversary on October 10th. Known as Double Ten Day due to it being the tenth day of the tenth month, it marks the day that The Republic of China/Taiwan came into existence.

Taiwan will be 101 years old on this day. Young by comparison to other nations in the world, but they have done so much in these relatively few years.

Most impressively, Taiwan has become a thriving democracy during this time. In 1996 they held their first direct President elections. Since then, Taiwan has seen different political parties hold the office of President. A true mark of a democracy.

Taiwan's economy is strong and their unemployment is low compared to much of the world. A lot of this can be attributed to them being recognized as a powerhouse in the electronics field.

Taiwan is also an important world citizen—constantly giving aid and assistance where it is needed throughout the globe. If a natural disaster occurs in another country, Taiwan is often one of the first nations on the scene providing much needed help.

One last note, Taiwan's top diplomat in the U.S. and our longtime friend Jason Yuan is leaving his post here to assume the awesome responsibilities of Chief of the Republic of China's National Security Council. We wish him well in this new role and assure him of our continuing confidence in the special relationship between Taiwan and the U.S.

For these reasons and more I congratulate Taiwan and wish them a very happy celebration on their 101st year.

CARROLLTON, GA VA FACILITY
OPENING

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, we are here today to honor and celebrate our veterans, American heroes, who have bravely served their country, to open a first class health facility to aid our wounded warriors in their recovery and treatment, and to honor the legacy of the woman who made it all possible—Katherine "Trinka" Davis.

With a war in Afghanistan, a recent one in Iraq, and unrest around the globe, the United States has more than 196,000 active duty servicemen and women that put their lives on the line, night and day, to protect our families

and our freedoms. These men and women accepted the call of duty, leaving behind their loved ones and life as they know it to protect the lives of others.

When our soldiers return from battle, sometimes they do not get the support and assistance they deserve. Simply put, we owe them more. Just as they have answered the call to serve our country, we must answer the call to serve them. That is what Trinka Davis did and why we are gathered here today.

Trinka Davis was a businesswoman from Carroll County who founded The Trinka Davis Foundation in 2004 after realizing the struggles many servicemen and women faced upon returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. The Foundation exists to support veterans and their families. Though she is no longer with us, her memory lives on. Thanks to her generosity and the tireless dedication of her foundation, the Community Foundation of West Georgia, and the Georgia Department of Veterans Services, we are here today to open the Trinka Davis Veterans Village.

This facility will serve 3,000 veterans, and allow them to receive treatment closer to home. Prior to construction, veterans were often forced to drive two hours or more for treatment.

The facility will offer primary health care, mental health services, physical and occupational therapy, health and wellness counseling, and social services. I am happy to report that veterans began receiving outpatient treatment at the Trinka Davis Veterans Village on Monday.

In the coming months, the facility will also include a 42-bed community living center for veterans needing inpatient rehab in a "home-like, family-oriented, atmosphere."

Like our veterans, Ms. Davis is a hero, who recognized the needs of veterans and worked tirelessly to meet them. The Trinka Davis Foundation ensured that Ms. Davis's commitment to the veterans and their families in our own community and beyond would be preserved through construction of this facility.

The USO has a motto, "Until everyone comes home." Trinka realized that our work did not end there. She is an example to us all.

CONGRATULATING WESTLAKE
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker I rise today to congratulate Westlake Christian School for receiving the Department of Education's esteemed designation of a 2012 National Blue Ribbon School.

Founded in 1995 as a ministry of Palm Harbor United Methodist Church, Westlake Christian School quickly ascended to academic excellence. From its humble beginnings in a church hall with just eight kindergartners, the school now enrolls more than 300 kindergarten through eighth grade students on its 11-acre campus. The school focuses on their mission to guide and inspire students to develop their God-given potential, while fostering a lifelong love of learning, in a nurturing Christ-centered environment.

It is no small feat for a school to receive the distinguished honor of the Blue Ribbon Award.

In fact, Westlake Christian School was one of just two private schools in Florida and 50 private schools throughout the entire Nation to receive this distinction. Their integrated spiritual and educational approach is providing students the building blocks of a successful education foundation.

As Westlake Christian School proudly raises the Blue Ribbon flag on its campus, may those in our community and across the Nation be reminded of the good work done there daily and look to this school as a model of exemplary educational practices.

A TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE
OF MATTHEW PATRICK
MANOUKIAN

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of the always faithful Captain Matthew Patrick Manoukian, United States Marine Corps. Captain Manoukian made the ultimate sacrifice on August 10, 2012, giving his life for his country during his service in Afghanistan. He was 29 years old.

Captain Manoukian was a lifelong resident of Los Altos Hills, California, and graduated from Saint Francis High School in 2001. Since the age of 10, it had been Matthew's goal to become a Marine. Shortly after graduating from the University of Arizona in 2005, he attended Officer Candidates School in Quantico, Virginia. After commissioning as a Second Lieutenant into the Marine Corps, he joined Camp Pendleton's 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion after enduring a grueling training program that only 40 of 100 men passed. Captain Manoukian was in the top five.

Captain Manoukian rose through the ranks and was deployed twice to Iraq and twice to Afghanistan, always at "the tip of the spear." He saw his role in Afghanistan as freeing the oppressed from the Taliban and bringing a fair legal system to a country that has never had one. He also had a deep respect for Middle Eastern cultures and history, learning to speak Arabic, and insisting on walking through villages, greeting children and their parents in person, instead of patrolling in a Humvee.

Captain Manoukian was completing his fourth tour of duty in Afghanistan and had plans to attend law school after completing his military obligation. He had already been accepted at Golden Gate University where he planned to begin his studies in 2014.

On a fateful early morning on August 10th during a predawn Ramadan meal that Captain Manoukian insisted his troops respectfully observe during the Muslim holy month, an insurgent dressed as an Afghanistan police officer opened fire and took his life, and the lives of two other fellow Marines.

Captain Manoukian is survived by his father, Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge Socrates "Pete" Manoukian; his mother, Patricia Bamattre-Manoukian, Associate Justice of the Sixth District California Court of Appeal; brothers Michael and Martin; and the extended Manoukian and Bamattre families.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest condolences to Cap-

tain Manoukian's beloved family. We celebrate his life and his accomplishments, and we are proud to honor his memory in the U.S. House of Representatives. Our nation has lost a beloved citizen who made his community proud and his country stronger. His life enriched ours and may our tribute be a source of comfort to his beautiful family during their time of great grief.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BOROUGH
OF ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS, NEW
JERSEY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the borough of Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey on their 125th anniversary celebration. Atlantic Highlands and its citizens, with their hard work, dedication, and commitment to community, personify the quintessential American spirit.

Founded in 1887, the borough of Atlantic Highlands was originally part of Middletown Township. However, during the latter part of the 1800's, the area that is currently known as Atlantic Highlands was beginning to gain the attention of local businessmen and vacationers for its scenic landscape and proximity to Raritan Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. After its incorporation as a borough in 1897, Atlantic Highlands began to develop steadily. Steam ship and rail service were the source of major transportation in the area, with steam ships bringing vacationers to the borough from New York City and the surrounding area. In 1940, the municipal harbor was completed, which allowed the borough to accommodate significantly more travelers and vessels, which increased access to the borough.

Today, the borough remains a destination for travelers and vacationers, as well as home to more than 4,300 residents. The municipal harbor is the largest on the east coast, with the ability to accommodate upwards of 700 vessels. Offering high speed ferry service since 1992, the harbor and its ferry service serves as a scenic and convenient method of mass transportation for commuters traveling to New York City. The local businesses and business owners in the borough take great pride in their ability to provide great destinations for their local community and vacationers to enjoy. The citizens of Atlantic Highlands, along with the leadership of Mayor Fred Rast III and the borough council, make the Borough of Atlantic Highlands a truly great place to live, work, and visit.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in leading this body in congratulating the borough of Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey on their 125th anniversary. I take great pride in having the opportunity and responsibility of representing the borough and its citizen's interests here in Washington DC.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the achievements and success of two programs at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). The Master of Business Administration (MBA) Program and the Reverse Transfer Program are being recognized by Excelencia in Education.

Excelencia in Education focuses on accelerating success for Latino students at the associate, baccalaureate, and graduate levels. Since 2005, Excelencia has honored programs and departments at the cutting edge of increasing and improving academic achievement for Latinos.

UTEP's Reverse Transfer Program, honored by Excelencia as a finalist, allows transfer students to earn their final credits at UTEP, and then have those credits sent back to El Paso Community College to fulfill the balance of the associate degree requirement. This program increases the graduation rates at El Paso Community College, and increases UTEP's retention rate, which results in improving access to higher education for all students.

UTEP's Master of Business Administration Program, honored by Excelencia as an awardee, serves over 400 students from more than 20 countries from a variety of backgrounds. The MBA program was recognized for the third year in a row as the number one program for Hispanics in the Nation by the Hispanic Business Magazine. The program reflects Excelencia in Education by blending quality graduate education and affordability.

I want to personally congratulate UTEP's Master of Business Administration and Reverse Transfer programs for their recognition, which is a testament to the hard work and dedication of faculty, administration, and students. I look forward to the continued success of UTEP, and I am honored to represent this outstanding institution.

HONORING LEE MARIE ANDERSON

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 28, 2012

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lee Marie Anderson, who quietly passed away on Monday, September 24, 2012. Lee was born on October 4, 1924 to Bertha and John Dutton in her hometown of Linden, Michigan. She attended the University of Michigan, but left early to serve her country as a member of the U.S. Navy WAVES where she was trained as a nurse's aide during the greatest conflict of our time.

Following World War II, she married Jack Braude and moved to California to pursue a career in modeling and acting. She soon became involved with California politics and local civic activities in Westchester. In the early 1950s she was a driving force in the Democratic Party, serving in leadership roles with the League of Women Voters.

Lee Anderson then married former Lieutenant Governor and Congressman of California